

CLAIM LISTING

1. (currently amended) A method for preparing electronic data for transmission, comprising calculating a duration for compressing the electronic data, calculating a duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed, and compressing the electronic data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting, wherein calculating the duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed includes:

measuring a duration for transmitting other electronic data;

identifying a size of the other electronic data;

calculating a transmit rate based on the measured duration for transmitting the other electronic data and the identified size of the other electronic data; and
calculating the duration for transmitting the electronic data according to a size of the electronic data and the transmit rate.

2. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein calculating the duration for compressing the electronic data comprises calculating a duration for compressing a portion of the electronic data, and wherein compressing comprises compressing the portion of the electronic data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting.

3. (original) The method of Claim 1, wherein calculating the duration for compressing includes calculating a combined duration for compressing and decompressing the electronic data and wherein compressing comprises compressing the electronic data only if the combined duration does not exceed the duration for transmitting.

4. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising calculating a duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed, and wherein compressing comprises compressing the electronic data only if the duration for compressing summed with the

duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed does not exceed the duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed.

5. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising calculating a duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed, and wherein calculating the duration for compressing includes calculating a combined duration for compressing and decompressing the electronic data, and wherein compressing comprises compressing the electronic data only if the combined duration summed with the duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed does not exceed the duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed.

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) A method for preparing a print job containing raster data, comprising:

calculating a duration for compressing the raster data;

calculating a duration for transmitting the print job if the raster data is not compressed; and

compressing the raster data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting;

wherein calculating a duration for transmitting the print job if the raster data is not compressed includes:

measuring a duration for transmitting a prior print job;

identifying a size of the prior print job;

calculating the transmit rate for the prior print job based on the measured duration for transmitting the prior print job and the identified size of the prior print job;

calculating the duration for transmitting the print job according to a size of the print job and the transmit rate.

10. (original) The method of Claim 9, further comprising transmitting the print job to an image forming device.

11. (original)

12. (original)

13. (original)

14. (currently amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein measuring a duration comprises measuring a duration for transmitting the prior print job from a print queue to an image forming device.

15. (currently amended) A computer readable medium having instructions for calculating a duration for compressing electronic data, calculating a duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed, and compressing the electronic data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting, wherein the instructions for calculating the duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed include instructions for:

measuring a duration for transmitting other electronic data;

identifying a size of the other electronic data;

calculating a transmit rate based on the measured duration for transmitting the other electronic data and the identified size of the other electronic data; and

calculating the duration for transmitting the electronic data according to a size of the electronic data and the transmit rate.

16. (original) The medium of Claim 15, wherein the instructions for calculating the duration for compressing the electronic data include instructions for calculating a

duration for compressing a portion of the electronic data, and wherein the instructions for compressing include instructions for compressing the portion of the electronic data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting.

17. (original) The medium of Claim 15, wherein the instructions for calculating the duration for compressing include instructions for calculating a combined duration for compressing and decompressing the electronic data and wherein the instructions for compressing include instructions for compressing the electronic data only if the combined duration does not exceed the duration does transmitting.

18. (original) The medium of Claim 15, further comprising calculating a duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed, and wherein the instructions for compressing include instructions for compressing the electronic data only if the duration for compressing summed with the duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed does not exceed the duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed.

19. (original) The medium of Claim 15, further comprising calculating a duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed, and wherein the instructions for calculating the duration for compressing include instructions for calculating a combined duration for compressing and decompressing the electronic data, and wherein the instructions for compressing include instructions for compressing the electronic data only if the combined duration does summed with the duration for transmitting the electronic data if compressed does not exceed the duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed.

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) The medium of Claim 15 21, wherein the instructions for noting include instructions for measuring a duration for transmitting other electronic data, identifying a size of the other electronic data, and calculating the transmit rate for the other electronic data based on the measured duration for transmitting the other electronic data and the identified size of the other electronic data.

23. (currently amended) A computer readable medium having instructions for:
calculating a duration for compressing the raster data;
calculating a duration for transmitting a print job if the raster data is not compressed; and
compressing the raster data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting

wherein the instructions for calculating a duration for transmitting the print job if the raster data is not compressed include instructions for:

measuring a duration for transmitting a prior print job;

identifying a size of the prior print job;

calculating the transmit rate for the prior print job based on the measured duration for transmitting the prior print job and the identified size of the prior print job;

calculating the duration for transmitting the print job according to a size of the print job and the transmit rate.

24. (original) the medium of Claim 23, having further instruction for transmitting the print job to an image forming device.

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (cancelled)

28. (currently amended) The medium of Claim 23 ~~27~~, wherein the instructions for measuring a duration include instructions for measuring a duration for transmitting the prior print job from a print queue to an image forming device.

29. (currently amended) A system for preparing a print job containing raster data, comprising:

a bandwidth module operable to supply data relating to a transmit rate for the print job;

a duration module operable to calculate a duration for compressing the raster data and to calculate, based on a transmit rate supplied by the bandwidth module, a duration for transmitting the print job if the raster data is not compressed; and

a compression selector operable to instruct that the raster data be compressed only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting.

wherein the bandwidth module is operable to measure a duration for transmitting a prior print job, identify a size of the prior print job, and calculate a transmit rate for the prior print job based on the measured duration for transmitting the prior print job and the identified size of the prior print job; and

wherein the duration module is operable to calculate the duration for transmitting the print job according to a size of the print job and the transmit rate of the prior print job.

30. (original) The system of Claim 29, wherein one or more of the bandwidth module, duration module, and the compression selector are programming elements of a print driver.

31. (original) The system of Claim 29, wherein the bandwidth module is operable to supply data identifying a port through which the print job will be transmitted en route to an image forming device, and wherein the duration module is operable to calculate the duration for transmitting the print job by identifying a transmit rate for the port and calculating the duration according to the transmit rate for the port and a size of the print job.

32. (original) The system of Claim 29, wherein the bandwidth module is operable to identify a port through which the print job will be transmitted, identify an assumed transmit rate for that port, and supply the duration module with the assumed transmit rate.

33. (cancelled)

34. (cancelled)

35. (currently amended) The system of Claim 29 ~~34~~, wherein the bandwidth module is operable to measure the duration by measuring a duration for transmitting the prior print job from a print queue to an image forming device.

36. (currently amended) A print server, comprising:
a print queue;
a queue manager operable to administer print jobs in a print queue;
a bandwidth module operable to supply data relating to a transmit rate for a print job;
a duration module operable to calculate a duration for compressing the raster data and to calculate, based on a transmit rate supplied by the bandwidth module, a duration for transmitting the print job if the raster data is not compressed; and
a compression selector operable to instruct the queue manager to compress the raster data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting;

wherein the bandwidth module is operable to measure a duration for transmitting a prior print job, identify a size of the prior print job, and calculate a transmit rate for the prior print job based on the measured duration for transmitting the prior print job and the identified size of the prior print job; and

wherein the duration module is operable to calculate the duration for transmitting the print job according to a size of the print job and the transmit rate of the prior print job.

37. (original) A system for preparing electronic data for transmission, comprising:
a means for calculating a duration for compressing the electronic data;
a means for calculating a duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed; and

a means for compressing the electronic data only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting.

wherein the means for calculating the duration for transmitting the electronic data if not compressed include:

means for measuring a duration for transmitting other electronic data;

means for identifying a size of the other electronic data;

means for calculating a transmit rate based on the measured duration for transmitting the other electronic data and the identified size of the other electronic data; and

means for calculating the duration for transmitting the electronic data according to a size of the electronic data and the transmit rate.

38. (currently amended) A system for preparing a print job containing raster data, comprising:

a means for supplying data relating to a transmit rate for the print job;

a means for calculating a duration for compressing the raster data;

a means for calculating a duration for transmitting the print job if the raster data is not compressed; and

a means for instructing that the raster data be compressed only if the duration for compressing does not exceed the duration for transmitting;

wherein the means for calculating a duration for transmitting the print job if the raster data is not compressed include:

means for measuring a duration for transmitting other raster data;

means for identifying a size of the other raster data;

means for calculating a transmit rate based on the measured duration for transmitting the other raster data and the identified size of the other raster data;
and

means for calculating the duration for transmitting the raster data according to a size of the raster data and the transmit rate.

39. (original) The system of Claim 38, wherein the means for supplying is a means for supplying data relating to a port through which the print job will travel en route to an image forming device.

40. (original) The system of Claim 38, wherein the means for supplying is a means for supplying a transmit rate for a prior print job.